HOUSE BILL 3353

By Bass

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-4-9___.

- (a) To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, a student enrolled in a federally-funded Upward Bound program shall:
 - (1) Not be ineligible for a scholarship under § 49-4-904;
 - (2) Meet the requirements of § 49-4-905;
 - (3) Successfully complete four (4) years in a federally-funded Upward Bound program for high school students from low-income families or families in which neither parent holds a baccalaureate degree; and
 - (4) Be admitted to and enroll in an eligible postsecondary institution no later than sixteen (16) months after graduating from a high school located in Tennessee, completing high school in a Tennessee home school program or obtaining a GED.
- (b) Notwithstanding provisions of § 49-4-911 to the contrary, to continue to receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under this section, a student shall meet all nonacademic eligibility requirements for the scholarship and shall achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.25 at any time at which eligibility is reviewed under § 49-4-911.

(c) A student eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under this section shall also be eligible for an ASPIRE award, if the student meets the requirements of § 49-4-915(a).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for the 2008-2009 academic year and academic years thereafter.

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